

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1           1.       A method for generating a table for enhancing the print quality of input  
2 raster pel`data, comprising:  
3           generating an output value for different patterns of pel data, wherein each  
4 output value indicates a sub-pulse width power to charge to a sub-pel region within a  
5 pel and position information indicating the justification of the sub-pel region within  
6 the pel; and  
7           forming a look-up table from the generated output values that enhances print  
8 quality.

1           2.       The method of claim 1, wherein toner is attracted to the charged sub-  
2 pel region.

1           3.       The method of claim 1, wherein one output value is generated for a  
2 subject pel depending upon the pattern of pels surrounding the subject pel, wherein  
3 there is one output value for each possible pattern of surrounding pels.

1           4.       The method of claim 3, wherein the subject pel is at the center of the  
2 surrounding pels, and wherein the surrounding pels form a diamond shape.

1           5.       The method of claim 1, wherein the position information is used to  
2 cluster sub-pel regions next to each other in adjacent pels and justify an edge pel  
3 toward a black filled region adjacent to the edge pel.

1           6.       The method of claim 1, wherein the output value for the sub-pulse  
2 width power is generated by adjusting a base sub-pulse width power by weights  
3 indicating the affect of a subject black pel on surrounding pels.

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1           7.     The method of claim 6, wherein the output value is generated for the  
2     subject black pel affecting the surrounding pels, wherein the surrounding pels  
3     comprise multiple regions of pels, wherein there is a separate weight for each region  
4     that is used to adjust the base sub-pulse width power of the subject black pel to  
5     produce the output value.

1           8.     The method of claim 6, wherein, for each region, there is a black  
2     weight indicating the affect of the subject black pel on a black pel in the region and a  
3     white weight indicating the affect of the subject black pel on a white pel in the region,  
4     wherein adjusting the base sub-pulse width power for the subject black pel comprises,  
5     for each region:

6                 adding the black weight to the sub-pulse width power for each black pel in the  
7     region; and

8                 subtracting the white weight from the sub-pulse width power for each white  
9     pel in the region.

1           9.     The method of claim 7, wherein the for each region are calculated by  
2     solving an equation that uses the weights for each region to adjust an input array  
3     comprising the density at each greyscale level at the base sub-pulse width power to  
4     produce a target output array comprising desired density for each greyscale level.

1           10.    The method of claim 9, wherein the adjustment of the input array using  
2     the weights is performed by adding a first function defining the density of the pels in  
3     the regions for each greyscale level after adjusting the subject black pel with the  
4     weights, subtracting a second function defining the density of the pels in the regions  
5     for each greyscale level with no weight affect, adding a third function defining the  
6     density of the black subject pel for each greyscale level after adjusting the center pel  
7     with the weights, and subtracting a fourth function defining the density of the black  
8     subject pel with no weight affect.

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1           11.     The method of claim 10, wherein the four functions defining the affect  
2     of the black subject pel in each region are based on a greyscale level corresponding to  
3     a percentage of the subject black pel that affects the region measured at different  
4     power levels.

1           12.     The method of claim 11, wherein the affect of the subject black pel in  
2     each region further comprises:

3           using the halftone algorithm to determine, for each region, black and white  
4     density arrays indicating a percentage of black and white pels, respectively, in the  
5     region for each greyscale level; and  
6           for each region, multiplying the black and white density arrays and the results  
7     of the functions indicating the affect of the subject black pel on the region to  
8     determine the black and white density effects of the subject black pel on the region.

1           13.     A system for generating a table for enhancing the print quality of input  
2     raster pel data, comprising:

3           means for generating an output value for different patterns of pel data,  
4     wherein each output value indicates a sub-pulse width power to charge to a sub-pel  
5     region within a pel and position information indicating the justification of the sub-pel  
6     region within the pel; and

7           means for forming a look-up table from the generated output values that  
8     enhances print quality.

1           14.     The system of claim 13, wherein toner is attracted to the charged sub-  
2     pel region.

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1           15.    The system of claim 13, wherein one output value is generated for a  
2 subject pel depending upon the pattern of pels surrounding the subject pel, wherein  
3 there is one output value for each possible pattern of surrounding pels.

1           16.    The system of claim 15, wherein the subject pel is at the center of the  
2 surrounding pels, and wherein the surrounding pels form a diamond shape.

1           17.    The system of claim 13, wherein the position information is used to  
2 cluster sub-pel regions next to each other in adjacent pels and justify an edge pel  
3 toward a black filled region adjacent to the edge pel.

1           18.    The system of claim 13, further comprising means for adjusting a base  
2 sub-pulse width power by weights indicating the affect of a subject black pel on  
3 surrounding pels to generate the output value for the sub-pulse width power.

1           19.    The system of claim 18, wherein the output value is generated for the  
2 subject black pel affecting the surrounding pels, wherein the surrounding pels  
3 comprise multiple regions of pels, wherein there is a separate weight for each region  
4 that is used to adjust the base sub-pulse width power of the subject black pel to  
5 produce the output value.

1           20.    The system of claim 18, wherein, for each region, there is a black  
2 weight indicating the affect of the subject black pel on a black pel in the region and a  
3 white weight indicating the affect of the subject black pel on a white pel in the region,  
4 wherein the means for adjusting the base sub-pulse width power for the subject black  
5 pel comprises, for each region:

6                means for adding the black weight to the sub-pulse width power for each  
7 black pel in the region; and

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8 means for subtracting the white weight from the sub-pulse width power for  
9 each white pel in the region.

1 21. The system of claim 19, further comprising means for calculating the  
2 weights for each region by solving an equation that uses the weights for each region to  
3 adjust an input array comprising the density at each gray scale level at the base sub-  
4 pulse width power to produce a target output array comprising desired density for  
5 each gray scale level.

1 22. The system of claim 21, wherein adjustment of the input array using  
2 the weights is performed by adding a first function defining the density of the pels in  
3 the regions for each gray scale level after adjusting the subject black pel with the  
4 weights, subtracting a second function defining the density of the pels in the regions  
5 for each gray scale level with no weight affect, adding a third function defining the  
6 density of the black subject pel for each gray scale level after adjusting the center pel  
7 with the weights, and subtracting a fourth function defining the density of the black  
8 subject pel with no weight affect.

1 23. The system of claim 22, wherein the four functions defining the affect  
2 of the black subject pel in each region are based on a gray scale level corresponding  
3 to a percentage of the subject black pel that affects the region measured at different  
4 power levels.

1 24. The system of claim 23, wherein the affect of the subject black pel in  
2 each region is determined by:

3 means for using the halftone algorithm to determine, for each region, black  
4 and white density arrays indicating a percentage of black and white pels, respectively,  
5 in the region for each gray scale level; and

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8       forming a look-up table from the generated output values that enhances print  
9   quality.

27. The article of manufacture of claim 25, wherein one output value is generated for a subject pel depending upon the pattern of pels surrounding the subject pel, wherein there is one output value for each possible pattern of surrounding pels.

1           29.     The article of manufacture of claim 25, wherein the position  
2     information is used to cluster sub-pel regions next to each other in adjacent pels and  
3     justify an edge pel toward a black filled region adjacent to the edge pel.

1           30.     The article of manufacture of claim 25, wherein the output value for  
2     the sub-pulse width power is generated by adjusting a base sub-pulse width power by  
3     weights indicating the affect of a subject black pel on surrounding pels.

1           31.     The article of manufacture of claim 30, wherein the output value is  
2     generated for the subject black pel affecting the surrounding pels, wherein the  
3     surrounding pels comprise multiple regions of pels, wherein there is a separate weight  
4     for each region that is used to adjust the base sub-pulse width power of the subject  
5     black pel to produce the output value.

1           32.     The article of manufacture of claim 30, wherein, for each region, there  
2     is a black weight indicating the affect of the subject black pel on a black pel in the  
3     region and a white weight indicating the affect of the subject black pel on a white pel  
4     in the region, wherein adjusting the base sub-pulse width power for the subject black  
5     pel comprises, for each region:

6                 adding the black weight to the sub-pulse width power for each black pel in the  
7     region; and

8                 subtracting the white weight from the sub-pulse width power for each white  
9     pel in the region.

1           33.     The article of manufacture of claim 31, wherein the weights for each  
2     region are calculated by solving an equation that uses the weights for each region to  
3     adjust an input array comprising the density at each gray scale level at the base sub-  
4     pulse width power to produce a target output array comprising desired density for  
5     each gray scale level.

1           34.     The article of manufacture of claim 33, wherein the adjustment of the  
2     input array using the weights is performed by adding a first function defining the  
3     density of the pels in the regions for each gray scale level after adjusting the subject

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4 black pel with the weights, subtracting a second function defining the density of the  
5 pels in the regions for each gray scale level with no weight affect, adding a third  
6 function defining the density of the black subject pel for each gray scale level after  
7 adjusting the center pel with the weights, and subtracting a fourth function defining  
8 the density of the black subject pel with no weight affect.

1 35. The article of manufacture of claim 34, wherein the four functions  
2 defining the affect of the black subject pel in each region are based on a gray scale  
3 level corresponding to a percentage of the subject black pel that affects the region  
4 measured at different power levels.

1 36. The article of manufacture of claim 35, wherein the affect of the  
2 subject black pel in each region further comprises:  
3 using the halftone algorithm to determine, for each region, black and white  
4 density arrays indicating a percentage of black and white pels, respectively, in the  
5 region for each gray scale level; and  
6 for each region, multiplying the black and white density arrays and the results  
7 of the functions indicating the affect of the subject black pel on the region to  
8 determine the black and white density effects of the subject black pel on the region.

1 37. A computer-readable transmission medium including at least one look-  
2 up table data structure used for enhancing the print quality of input raster pel data,  
3 comprising:

4 an output value for different patterns of pel data, wherein each output value  
5 includes:

6 (i) a sub-pulse width power to charge to a sub-pel region within a pel,

7 and

8 (ii) position information indicating the justification of the sub-pel

9 region within the pel.

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1           38.     The computer-readable transmission medium of claim 37, wherein the  
2     look-up table data structure one output value for a subject pel depending upon the  
3     pattern of pels surrounding the subject pel, wherein there is one output value for each  
4     possible pattern of surrounding pels.

1           38.     The computer-readable transmission medium of claim 37, wherein the  
2     position information is used to cluster sub-pel regions next to each other in adjacent  
3     pels and justify an edge pel toward a black filled region adjacent to the edge pel.

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